

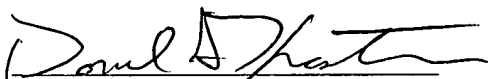


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

St. Louis, Missouri

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited in the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: BOX NON FEE AMENDMENT, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 2327, Arlington, VA 22202 on December 19, 2001.

  
Daniel S. Kasten

In re application of:  
Rice et al.

Serial No.: 09/576,989

Filed: May 23, 2000

For: HCV VARIANTS

Examiner Brumback, B.

Group Art Unit 1642

BOX NON FEE AMENDMENT  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 2327  
Arlington, VA 22202

SUPPLEMENTAL AMENDMENT

This paper is intended to supplement the Amendment filed on October 18, 2001. Please enter the claim amendment below prior to examination on the merits.

IN THE CLAIMS:

The claims of the application have been amended herein as indicated in the following marked up copies of the claims:

1. (Twice Amended) A polynucleotide comprising a non-naturally occurring HCV sequence that is capable of productive replication in a host cell, or is capable of being transcribed into a non-naturally occurring HCV sequence that is capable of productive replication in a host cell, wherein the

RECEIVED  
PATENT  
DEC 19 2001  
TECH CENTER 1600/2900

